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TRAINING AND RESEARCH: UNITED NATIONS INSTITUTE FOR TRAINING AND RESEARCH

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Irene FREUDENSCHUSS-REICHL (Austria)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 24 September 1993, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its forty-eighth session the item entitled "Training and Research: United Nations Institute for Training and Research" and to allocate it to the Second Committee.
2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 42nd, 46th and 48th meetings, on 29 November and 9 and 13 December 1993. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/48/SR.42, 46 and 48). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the committee at its 3rd to 8th meetings, on 8 and 11 to 13 October (see A/C.2/48/SR.3-8).
3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/48/574).
4. At the 42nd meeting, on 29 November, introductory statements were made by the Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management and the Acting Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (see A/C.2/48/SR.42).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS A/C.2/48/L.71 AND L.88

5. At the 46th meeting, on 9 December, the representative of Nigeria, on behalf of Algeria, Benin, Cameroon, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan and the United Republic of Tanzania, joined by Gabon, Indonesia, Mali and Sierra Leone, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations Institute for Training and Research" (A/C.2/48/L.71), which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 46/180 of 19 December 1991 and 47/227 of 8 April 1993,

"Taking note of the steps taken to complete the restructuring process of the Institute, including the writing-off of the debt through the disposition of the building of the Institute in New York, the transfer of its headquarters from New York to Geneva, the designing of programmes with a focus on providing training programmes and research activities related to training and, finally, the introduction of strict administrative and financial management criteria,

"Recognizing the importance and relevance of the interdisciplinary training functions within the United Nations system, under the statute of the Institute, the research activities, and research relating to training aimed at enhancing the effectiveness of the work of the United Nations, in particular those undertaken by the full-time senior Fellows of the Institute, without salary or any other remuneration,

"1. Invites the international community to make voluntary contributions to the restructured United Nations Institute for Training and Research, so as to assure its viability and the future development of its training programmes;

"2. Calls upon the Secretary-General, in pursuance of paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 47/227, to designate a liaison officer to organize and coordinate the existing training programmes and research activities relating to training in New York, within existing resources;

"3. Decides that, as an interim measure and without budgetary implications, the full-time senior research Fellows appointed in 1992 should continue in their functions and status until a final decision is taken in this regard, on the basis of the recommendations of the Board of Trustees of the Institute, by the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session;

"4. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide office space in Geneva and New York and the usual logistical and administrative support for the Institute;

"5. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution."

6. At the 48th meeting, on 13 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Leandro Arellano Resendiz (Mexico), introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/48/L.88), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.71.

7. The representative of the Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Finance made a statement in connection with the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.71, submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly (A/C.2/48/L.84), as did the representative of Pakistan (see A/C.2/48/SR.48).

8. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.88 without a vote (see para. 11).

9. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.88, draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.71 was withdrawn by the sponsors.

10. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of Mongolia made a statement.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

11. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

United Nations Institute for Training and Research

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 47/227 of 8 April 1993,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General, 1/

Noting with appreciation the steps taken to complete the restructuring process of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, including the writing-off of the debt through the disposition of the building of the Institute in New York, the transfer of its headquarters from New York to Geneva, the designing of programmes with a focus on providing training programmes and research activities related to training and, finally, the introduction of strict administrative and financial management criteria,

Recognizing the importance and relevance of the interdisciplinary training functions within the United Nations system, the research activities, and research relating to training aimed at enhancing the effectiveness of the work of the United Nations,

1. Invites the international community to make voluntary contributions to the restructured United Nations Institute for Training and Research so as to assure its viability and the future development of its training programmes;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to examine, in conformity with paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 47/227, the measures taken in 1993 with a view to further improving the organization and coordination of the training programmes and research activities relating to training in New York, and to provide appropriate logistical and administrative support, within existing resources;

3. Recommends that, as an interim measure and without budgetary implications, the full-time Senior Fellows should continue in their functions and status until a final decision is taken in this regard on the basis of the recommendations of the Board of Trustees of the Institute during its June session, but no later than 1 July 1994;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session, in the context of his report on the implementation of the present resolution, and in pursuance of resolution 47/227:

(a) Proposals for the enhancement of the research capacity of the United Nations system, including the possibility of transferring the non-training-related research functions of the Institute to other appropriate United Nations bodies, such as the United Nations University, and the possibility of promoting cooperation mechanisms with other relevant national and international research institutes;

(b) Information on the possibility of closer cooperation between the Institute and other qualified national and international institutions, including the International Training Centre of the International Labour Organization at Turin, Italy.
